



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish;
From 'Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest'

ARABIS LYRATA VAR KAMCHATICA
LYRE-LEAF ROCKCRESS

Lyre-leaf Rockcress is a short-lived perennial with 1- several simple or branched stems that are 10-30 cm high and arise from a simple or branched rootcrown. Basal leaves are 1-6 cm long, have lobed, broadly lance-shaped blades narrowed to a petiole of equal length. Stem leaves are sessile and few-lobed. Foliage is sparsely covered with long, stiff hairs. 3-20 erect, stalked flowers are borne in a compact inflorescence that expands as the fruits mature. Each flower has 4 glabrous sepals which are ca. 3 mm long, 4 white petals which are 5-8 mm long, 4 long stamens, and 2 short stamens. The glabrous, slightly compressed, linear siliques are 2-4 cm long, ca. 1 mm wide, and are erect. Flowering and possibly fruiting in May.

The deeply lobed leaves separate this species from all other *ARABIS* in our area. Species of *HALIMOLOBOS* are also similar but have either clasping stem leaves or hairy siliques.